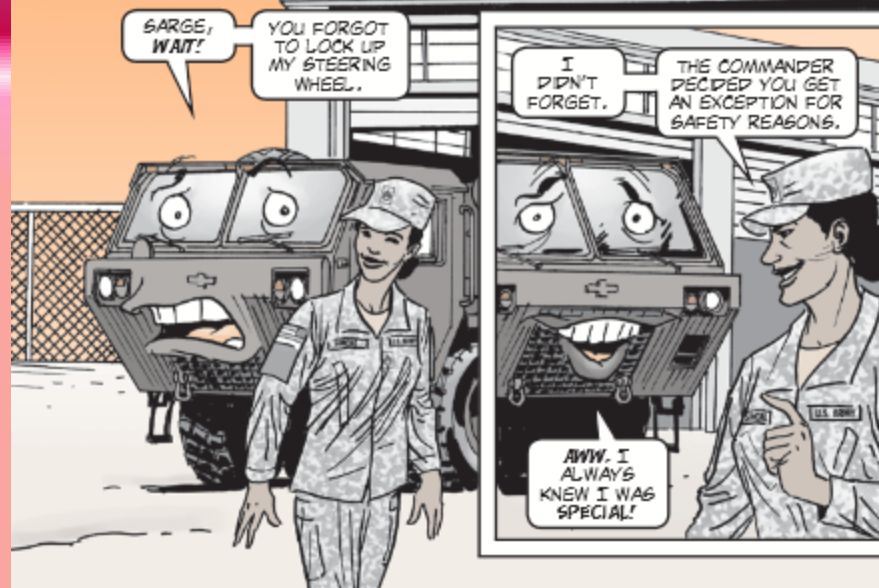


Safety...

Fuel Rigs: Lock 'em Up or Not?



For safety reasons, some units used to leave steering wheels unsecured on refueling vehicles and fuel tankers. If there was a fire, then these vehicles could be quickly moved out of danger.

Times change and security at post installations has been beefed up across the board. Now most units secure all of their motor pool vehicles. Some assume there are no exceptions to this rule.

Turns out there is a regulation that exempts fuel vehicles. It's just not easy to find. It's not covered in safety, maintenance, or hazardous waste/environmental publications. It's in a military police regulation.

AR 190-51, *Military Police, Security of Unclassified Army Property (Sensitive and Nonsensitive)* (Sep 93), requires military vehicles be secured.

However, Para 3-5e (2g) lists this exception: "Fuel tanker vehicles when, in the judgment of the installation commander, locking would create a potential unacceptable hazard to life or property."

The AR is available online at the Army Publishing Directorate's website:

http://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/pdf/r190_51.pdf

The key to resolving conflicting safety and security concerns is **risk assessment**. Commanders must weigh all the risks and make the final call.